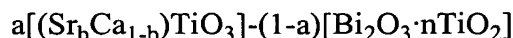


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A dielectric ceramic comprising:

a primary constituent represented by general formula (1):



(wherein a and b indicate molar amounts, and n indicates a molar ratio of TiO_2 to

5 Bi_2O_3); and

a secondary constituent represented by general formula (2):



(wherein x, y, and z indicate weight amounts per 100 parts by weight of the primary constituent, m is 1 to 2, and Ln is at least one element selected from the group

10 consisting of La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Dy, Ho and Er), and

wherein a, b, n, x, y, and z satisfy the expressions

$$0.88 \leq a \leq 0.92,$$

$$0.3 \leq b \leq 0.5,$$

$$1.8 \leq n \leq 3,$$

15 $1 \leq x \leq 3,$

$$0.1 \leq y \leq 2, \text{ and}$$

$$0 < z \leq 3.$$

2. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein the secondary constituent further comprises TiO_2 , and the TiO_2 content is such as to satisfy the expression $0 < p \leq 1.5$, wherein p is the molar ratio of the element Ti to the element Ln in the secondary constituent.

3. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 2, wherein p is 0.5 to 1.5.

4. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 3, wherein the secondary constituent further comprises SiO_2 , and the SiO_2 content is such as to satisfy the

expression $0 < w \leq 1$, wherein w is the weight of SiO_2 per 100 parts by weight of the primary constituent.

5. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 4, wherein w is 0.5 to 1.
6. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 5, wherein Ln is La .
7. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 6, wherein b is 0.45 to 0.5, x is 1 to 2.5, y is 0.2 to 2 and z is 0.2 to 2.
8. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein the secondary constituent further comprises SiO_2 , and the SiO_2 content is such as to satisfy the expression $0 < w \leq 1$, wherein w is the weight of SiO_2 per 100 parts by weight of the primary constituent.
9. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 8, wherein w is 0.5 to 1.
10. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein Ln is La .
11. A dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1, wherein b is 0.45 to 0.5, x is 1 to 2.5, y is 0.2 to 2 and z is 0.2 to 2.
12. A ceramic electronic component comprising:
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 10; and
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
13. A ceramic electronic component comprising:
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 8; and
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
14. A ceramic electronic component comprising:
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 7; and
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.

15. A ceramic electronic component comprising:
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 6; and
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
16. A ceramic electronic component comprising:
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 5; and
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
17. A ceramic electronic component comprising:
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 4; and
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
18. A ceramic electronic component comprising:
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 3; and
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
19. A ceramic electronic component comprising:
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 2; and
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.
20. A ceramic electronic component comprising:
an object comprising a dielectric ceramic according to Claim 1; and
electrodes disposed on the surfaces of the object.